29th December 1953]

for the receipt of the scholarship, may I request the Hon. Minister whether it is the intention of the Government that a washerman should live only as a washerman throughout his life?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" No, Sir."

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, this deals with elementary education and elementary education should not be looked upon as an education for a particular profession, namely, Government service."

SRI M. ETHIRAJULU :—" May I invite the attention of the Hon. Minister in this connection to the fact that this community has been classified as Scheduled class in almost all northern States and as this classification unfortunately has not been followed in this State, may I request the Government that as a special case this community may be given the privilege to get free scholarship as Harijans?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" We do not want to downgrade any particular community. Our attempt should be to upgrade communities."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" May I know whether these people applied for inclusion of their community in the list of Scheduled classes?"

THE HON. SRI C. RAJAGOPALACHARI :—" Sir, it is not easy to say whether a community has applied or not. Certain members belonging to the community tempted by the fact that certain special privileges are available for particular classified communities have asked to be classified as Scheduled class people. But it is very wrong in principle for the sake of a few concessions to ask for something which will lead to a considerable difference in status."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" Sir, with regard to the answer given to the main question, may I know, Sir, whether the income foregone by the local bodies and aided institutions by the grant of these concessions has been made good by the Government?"

THE HON. SRI C. SUBRAMANIAM :—" Yes, Sir. When we issue instructions, it will be made good to the local bodies."

Representation from the Udumalpet Salavaiyalars' Sangham.

* 17 *Q.*—SRI M. ETHIRAJULU : Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Registration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have received any representation from the Udumalpet Salavaiyalars' Sangham ; and

(*b*) if so, the action taken thereon?

THE HON. SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAIDU :—" (*a*) A representation, dated 17th July 1952, has been received by the Government from the Udumalpet Salvaiyalars' Sangham;

"(b) The matter has been referred to the Head of Department concerned and his report is awaited."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" May we know what is the request made in the representation? "

THE HON. SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAIDU :—" The request made was that the particular choultry should be given to them free of cost."

SRI M. ETHIRAJULU :—" In view of the fact that the washermen are utilizing this place for generations and practising their profession, and as there are no other suitable places for washing, may I request the Hon. Minister to assign the choultry to the Association for the purpose of washing the clothes of the general public? "

THE HON. SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAIDU :—" This is a choultry intended for the use of the general public. That being so, I do not know how it could be assigned to a particular community for their own purpose. But still the matter is under examination by the Head of the Department and his report is awaited."

SRI T. PURUSHOTHAM :—" To what use has the choultry been put so far? "

THE HON. SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAIDU :—" The matter is under investigation and the report of the Head of the Department is awaited."

SRI K. BALASUBRAMANYA AYYAR :—" May I know the name by which the community is called—Washerman or Salavaikarar or Dhobi? "

SRI MOHAMAD RAZA KHAN :—" Is the request contained in the resolution for washing the clothes there or for washing away the choultry? "

THE HON. SRI K. VENKATASWAMI NAIDU :—" They want to have the choultry for storing the clothes and for washing."

Fixation of minimum salary for local board employees.

* 18 Q.—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Industries, Labour and Co-operation be pleased to state the minimum salary fixed for local board employees under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948?

THE HON. DR. U. KRISHNA RAO :—" A copy [a] of G.O. No. 1355, Development, dated 29th March 1952, in which the minimum wages for employment under any local authority were fixed is placed on the table of the House."

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 75–80 infra.